

SCDNR Fall 2014 Coastal Explorations Series Calendar

All events are free (unless noted otherwise by \$\$\$\$) and open to the public.

Registration is required for all events via the website and opens 30 days in advance.

<http://www.dnr.sc.gov/marine/NERR/seminarseries.html>

- Once registered, participants will receive directions and further event details at least one week prior to the offering.

- Please direct any questions to the following:

Lauton Sutley, SCDNR//ACE Basin NERR, 843-953-9354 or sutleyl@dnr.sc.gov

Please Read First! - "The Coastal Exploration Series (CES) largely highlights managed properties, projects, and expertise of the Reserve staff and that of the SCDNR. In that effort CES events are often held outdoors and activities and conditions could include, but are not limited to, extreme heat or cold, exposure to insects, walking or standing for long periods of time on unstable surfaces, climbing onto or out of boats, docks, and trailers, etc.

Please contact Lauton Sutley by phone at 843-953-9354 or by email at sutleyl@dnr.sc.gov prior to registration if you have a disability that you feel might prevent your participation in an event."

Reptiles and Rattlesnakes

Speakers: Tony Mills, Jonathan Cooley

Date: Wednesday, September 30th

Time: 10 AM

Location: Parris Island

Limited to 15 participants.

Tony Mills, naturalist and herpetologist with the LowCountry Institute, will discuss the natural history of reptiles of the Lowcountry. Jonathan Cooley a student at Marshall University working with Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnakes on Parris Island, will share life history of these fascinating animals and discuss his work on Parris Island. Following the lecture segment, the group will join Mike in the field utilizing radio telemetry to track his tagged rattlesnakes at PI. Event will start with classroom lecture and conclude with tracking exercise in woodlands of Parris Island to find Eastern Diamondback. Tracking exercise can include walking over uneven ground, high temperatures, exposure to native fauna , insects during outdoor tracking component.

Please wear long pants, and closed toed shoes/boots. Also bring any food or drink you will require for the duration of the outing

Congaree

Speaker: John Cely

Date: Thursday, October 15th

Time: 10:30 AM

Location: Congaree National Park

Limited to 20 people.

The Congaree NP is the largest old growth bottomland hardwood forest remaining in America and is the home of four national champion trees and more than two dozen state champions. It is one of the tallest hardwood forests in the temperate world and one of the most biologically diverse parks in the country, with more than 90 species of trees and shrubs and at least 26 species of vines, more than any other park. It currently features the tallest known tree in SC, the national champion loblolly pine, nearly 170 feet tall.

Yawkey Wildlife Management Area

Speaker: Jamie Dozier/Jim Lee, SCDNR

Date: Tuesday, October 20th

Time: 9 AM

Location: Ferry landing, Georgetown, S.C.

Limited to 13 participants

The Tom Yawkey Wildlife Center was willed to DNR in 1976 by the late Tom Yawkey. Participants will catch a glimpse of the 31 square miles of marsh, managed wetlands, open beach, longleaf pine and maritime forest which together create what is considered one of the most outstanding gifts to wildlife conservation in North America. The Yawkey Wildlife Center is utilized for research and is primarily managed as a wildlife preserve. Participants will have a firsthand experience of this property, learning about the abundant plant and wildlife that inhabit it and why these areas are so important to protect.

Santee Coastal Wildlife Management Area

Speaker: Jim Lee

Date: Tuesday, October 27th

Time: 10:am- 2:00 pm

Location: Santee Coastal Wildlife Management Area, McClellanville ,S.C.

Limited to 20 people.

Santee Coastal Reserve is a 24,000 acre Wildlife management Area located in Northern Charleston County. Freshwater, brackish, and tidal wetlands dominate this landscape and provide habitat for a vast array of wildlife species. Visitors may expect to see many different resident and migratory birds and other wetland dependent species as they explore and learn about the history of rice culture in coastal South Carolina.

We suggest you bring binoculars (spotting scope if you have one) and water. Dress appropriately for weather

Birding at Bear Island

Speaker: Pete Laurie

Date: Thursday, October 29th

Time: 9 AM-1 PM

Location: Bear Island Wildlife Management Area
Limited to 20 participants.

Join SCDNR staff on a tour of the Bear Island Management Area, with an emphasis on birding. Wetland impoundments and various habitats exist within Bear Island which makes this area a bird watchers paradise. Participants will travel in hayride style as they are pulled in an open trailer with bench seating. Birds to be experienced throughout the day include, but are surely not limited to, Tundra Swan, White Pelican, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Glossy Ibis, and a variety of Egrets, Herons and waterfowl.